ST. AIDAN'S CHORUS

Presents

"YEOMAN OF THE GUARD"

by

GILBERT and SULLIVAN

St. Aidan's Parish House

CHELTENHAM

SATURDAY EVENINGS
NOVEMBER 2nd and 9th

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS
NOVEMBER 6th and 13th

AT 8:15 P. M.

1940

STORY OF "YEOMEN OF THE GUARD"

Phoebe, the daughter of Sergeant Meryll, cherishes a tender regard for Colonel Fairfax, a prisoner in London Tower who is to be beheaded "in an hour." Sergeant Meryll, Phoebe and her brother Leonard (just returned from Windsor to join the Yeomen of the Guard) plan to release Fairfax and substitute him for Leonard who is unknown to the other Yeomen. Leonard agrees to leave quietly and lie hidden until the Colonel Fairfax is saved. Fairfax whose cousin has plotted his death to secure his estate, seeks to thwart his enemy by marrying ere he dies, and the lieutenant is persuaded to find him a wife. The task is made easy by the appearance of Elsie Maynard and Jack Point. Elsie's mother is ill and the girl is induced by the promise of a hundred crowns to become the bride of Fairfax. Blindfolded she is led to his cell for the ceremony. No sooner is the wedding over than Sergeant Meryll steals to Fairfax's cell with the keys which Phoebe has wheedled from her admirer Wilfred Shadbolt. Fairfax is freed and introduced without suspicion to the Yeomen, although disaster is narrowly averted when Phoebe greets him as her brother. The hour for the execution arrives and Fairfax himself, in the guise of a Yeoman announces that the cell is open and the prisoner fled. With varying emotions the crowd disperses leaving Elsie Maynard fainting in Fairfax's arms.

— Curtain —

Two days gone and the prisoner still free, Jack Point, sad in spite of his fine new position, induces Wilfred to join in a plot by which he hopes to regain Elsie. Fairfax learns the identity of his bride through the disclosures of Dame Carruthers and her niece Kate, and immediately makes use of his knowledge to test Elsie's faithfulness. A shot is fired and Wilfred arrives breathless to announce that he has just shot Fairfax while he was trying to swim across the river and that the body sank. Jack Point now makes advances to Elsie but is forestalled by Fairfax in the guise of Leonard Meryll who woos Elsie on pretense of showing Jack Point how it is done. To the consternation of Point and Phoebe, Elsie consents to become his wife. Wilfred suspects Phoebe's part in the delivery of Fairfax and is silenced by the promise of her hand. A like suspicion wins the hand of Sergeant Meryll for Dame Carruthers. The play closes on a tragic note as Jack Point broken-hearted and dispairing dies in the midst of rejoicing at the happiness of Elsie.

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Characters — In the order of their appearance

PHOEBE MERYLL ..... Ann Wells
Sergeant Meryll's daughter

WILFRED SHADBOLT ..... Arthur Wells
Head jailer and assistant tormentor

DAME CARRUTHERS ..... Ida Haase
Housekeeper to the Tower

SECOND YEOMAN ..... John MacMillan

SERGEANT MERYLL ..... Wallace Rowland
Of the Yeomen of the Guard

LEONARD MERYLL ..... Daniel Lauria
His Son

SIR RICHARD CHOLMONDELEY ..... Edward Foley
Lieutenant of the Tower

COLONEL FAIRFAX ..... William Craig
Under Sentence of death

ELSIE MAYNARD ..... Emily Urban
A strolling singer

JACK POINT ..... Samuel Tucker
A strolling jester

FIRST CITIZEN ..... Samuel Tucker, Jr.

SECOND CITIZEN ..... Edward Potts

FIRST YEOMEN ..... Frederick Zaiser

KATE ..... Helen Lee
Dame Carruthers' niece

HEADSMAN ..... Edward Potts

BLOCK-BEARER ..... Charles Haase

CHAPLAIN ..... Samuel Tucker, Jr.

Chorus of Yeomen of the Guard, Citizens, etc.

Kay Bickhardt	Annette Kassitz	Ruth Sollenberger	Harold Goodwin
Jeanie Farquhar	Anita Kildaire	Doris Somerville	John Gordon
Doris Glavis	Augusta Lacy	Elizabeth Teal	Ray Moore
Evelyn Goodwin	Ruth Macneir	Marjorie Tucker	Harry O'Connor
Jean Hildreth	Jane Potts	Ethel Weimar	Robert Shaw
Elizabeth Hingston	Norma Schram	Ralph Cornell	Ian Somerville
Doris Hunt	Jean Smith	Johnson Glavis	Norman Tempest

Directed by Elsie Tucker

Costumes by members of the cast under the direction of Imogene Tempest
Hats by Ida Haase
Properties by Ralph Snyder
Scenery by Casimir I. Geibel
Lighting by Casmir Irvin

MUSICIANS

Edward Boyer	Emmett Beebe	James Rettew	Nicholas Frisch
Vernon Watson	Carl Tucker	Lester Tucker	Harold Goodwin, Jr.

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